

23. **ISSUE: HENDERSHOTT USED THE POSSE AT PINE RIDGE APARTMENTS  
FOR SECURITY AND BENEFITTED PERSONALLY, AND USED RESOURCES  
CONTRARY TO POLICY – SUBJECT: HENDERSHOTT**  
(Munnell Memo p. 46)

**Chief Deputy David Hendershott**

H18A. Allegedly, Chief Deputy David Hendershott deployed Posse members at an apartment complex, and inappropriately earned \$750 per month to coordinate the security patrol by the Posse.

H18B. Allegedly, at the direction of Hendershott, a number of slots for children to attend a posse-sponsored camp were reserved for Pine Ridge Apartments, which is located in the City of Phoenix, decreasing the number of children from schools located in County jurisdiction that could attend.

**MUNNELL'S WRITTEN ACCOUNT**

**Hendershott uses the Posse at Pine Ridge Apartments for security**

In 1997, Hendershott requested that Brian Sands and I meet him at the Pine Ridge Apartments, located at 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and Thomas Road in Phoenix. Upon arrival, Hendershott, Sands, and I went on a walking tour with the manager of the property. It was clear that Hendershott was considering some type of off-duty job providing security at the property. However, while I spoke privately with the manager, she informed me that the complex was considered so dangerous by the Phoenix Police Department that they had enacted a policy requiring that two patrol units respond there for calls for service.

After the tour was completed, we discussed that our posse members would patrol the complex with a single Deputy as a supervisor. I told Hendershott that I was very concerned about a single Deputy being in charge, and that my main concern was that this type of assignment for the posse, who are untrained and ill suited for what even Phoenix PD considered a hostile environment, we were placing them harm's way. He replied that we could ask for another Deputy at a later date, indicating that he wanted this detail to proceed without further delay. As Sands and I returned to our vehicle, I told Sands that I believed that Hendershott was going to be paid somehow for this detail. As I learned later, Hendershott was paid seven hundred and fifty-dollars (\$750) a month to coordinate this job. The posses were paid for their time as well. Additionally, Hendershott had the Enforcement Support Staff also provided community service events such as clean-up events that were not reimbursed by the management of the complex.

For example, each year the Sheriff's Office conducts a weeklong summer program in Gila County called "Camp Future Force" and approximately one hundred children are selected from various county schools as part of our D.A.R.E. program. However, due to Hendershott's business relationship with the Pine Ridge Apartments, approximately thirty children who resided at the Pine Ridge Property were selected to attend summer camp displacing children who were entitled to attend from valley schools.

**WITNESSES LISTED BY MUNNELL**

Deputy Chief Frank Munnell

Ordered by Hendershott to use posses.

Executive Chief Brian Sands            Coordinated posse use.  
Deputy Chief Don Schneidmiller      Whitney Sigholtz hire/Pine Ridge activities.

#### **NARRATIVE SUMMARY**

In 1997, Brian Sands and Munnell met Hendershott at the Pine Ridge Apartments to discuss security patrol by posse members since PPD considered the apartments to be dangerous. Despite PPD's concerns, Hendershott wanted to put a single posse member at the site, to add a second member later because Hendershott wanted to avoid further delay. Munnell found out that Hendershott received \$750 a month to coordinate the patrol. Hendershott also sent 30 children who lived at Pine Ridge to the Camp Future Force DARE Program, preventing other children from other valley schools to fill some of the limited 100 spots.

#### **WITNESS ACCOUNTS**

##### **Frank Munnell**

Munnell indicated that he has firsthand information on this issue. He was the Lieutenant over the Enforcement Support Division, and had the posse under him. Munnell indicated that he was summoned to meet Hendershott at the Pine Ridge Apartments with the manager, and he brought Brian Sands with him. This complex is located at 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and Thomas. Hendershott told those present that MCSO was going to have the Posse handling security, and there would also be an off-duty Deputy on duty as well. Munnell suggested to Hendershott that they have more than one Deputy, and questioned whether the Posse would be able to take care of the situation, given the high crime rate at the complex. Munnell learned that Hendershott was making \$750 a month for coordinating the security involving Posse members and off-duty Deputies.

##### **Brian Sands**

Sands acknowledged that he worked at a number of events where Hendershott was involved in an off-duty capacity, including working at the Coliseum hockey games involving the Roadrunners. He worked off-duty security at the hockey games, and also worked off-duty at the Pine Ridge Apartments. According to Sands, Hendershott did receive compensation for coordinating events at the Coliseum, and that Hendershott had worked there in some sort of Director of Security capacity. As to whether he had received compensation from Pine Ridge Apartments for coordinating security there, Sands did not know, apart from information received from Frank Munnell that he did.

##### **Don Schneidmiller**

Schneidmiller has no first-hand information concerning Hendershott receiving money from the Pine Ridge Apartments to coordinate off-duty security by members of the Posse and off-duty MCSO personnel.

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2 He did have information relating to the Youth Assistance Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax  
3 exempt corporation, where traditionally youth in the schools in unincorporated county  
4 areas received assistance. Camp Future Force could accommodate up to 120 youth,  
5 based on the economic needs, and other considerations, including recommendations  
6 from teachers and school performance. The children would also write essays about  
7 why they wanted to go to the camp (Camp Future Force) sponsored by the Youth  
8 Assistance Foundation. One particular year, Schneidmiller was told that they had to cut  
9 back on the number of children from the outlying schools, so they could make room for  
10 30 to 40 children from the Pine Ridge Apartments. Schneidmiller had expressed  
11 several concerns about what was going on. First, he expressed concerns about  
12 Hendershott using county resources "for something that's going to contribute to what  
13 goes into your wallet," referring to Hendershott receiving a fee for "coordinating" security  
14 at Pine Ridge. Second, he thought it was more appropriate for the Youth Assistance  
15 Foundation to support children from unincorporated areas of the county, rather than in  
16 the city.

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18 **David Hendershott**

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20 When asked for background information as to how Hendershott and MCSO began  
21 providing security to the Pine Ridge Apartments, Hendershott did not recall the details.  
22 Hendershott indicated that MCSO could not patrol on duty, but could do so off-duty,  
23 because Pine Ridge Apartments were in the jurisdiction of the Phoenix Police  
24 Department. Hendershott was paid approximately \$500 a month to coordinate security  
25 at Pine Ridge Apartments. The actual security was provided by off-duty Deputies and  
26 posse members. Posse personnel were in vehicles, and they used their own vehicles  
27 that the posse had purchased. They were paid as a donation to the posse group.  
28 Hendershott understood that Munnell and Seebert had a hand in coordinating the off-  
29 duty security activities at Pine Ridge. He believes that Munnell and Seebert, as they  
30 had been paid when they were coordinating security at the Coliseum, were paid on an  
31 hourly basis. Hendershott indicated that he was involved in the coordination of these  
32 activities for only a few months, and thought that he was paid a flat rate of \$500 a  
33 month, while acknowledging that it could have been \$750 per month. This would have  
34 taken place in the 1990's. Hendershott indicated that he spent only approximately 10  
35 hours a month, and none of his work was on-duty. As he put it, once the scheduling  
36 had been set up, it was somewhat automatic. Hendershott was not certain why the  
37 arrangement ended, but he believes that it may have been because Pine Ridge couldn't  
38 afford it.

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40 As to the allegation that Hendershott was slotting children from Pine Ridge Apartments  
41 to attend Camp Future Force, Hendershott's comments were as follows. He indicated  
42 Camp Future Force was a concept that would help young men or women that were  
43 having issues in the community. Personnel from MCSO were working at Pine Ridge  
44 Apartments, and some of these individuals worked in Community Services, which ran  
45 Camp Future Force. Hendershott indicated that MCSO would "pull kids from anywhere"

1 especially with MCSO personnel working at Pine Ridge, and therefore it was considered  
2 to be a "good outreach."  
3

4 According to Hendershott, there were no restrictions that only children who were in  
5 County jurisdiction could participate in Camp Future Force. It was not unusual for  
6 attendees of Camp Future Force to live within a municipality other than in County  
7 jurisdiction. Hendershott certainly does not deny that children from Pine Ridge  
8 Apartments attended Camp Future Force.  
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10 When asked whether some of the slots were reserved for children from Pine Ridge,  
11 Hendershott commented that the manager of the apartments had called him, asking if  
12 there was some program that could be presented for the youth in the complex.  
13 Hendershott thought that she may have been thinking about Camp Future Force when  
14 she called. Hendershott recalls that they did put on a "mini-law enforcement fair"  
15 around Christmas, where the Sheriff was present, as was Santa Claus, and they did a  
16 gift giveaway. Hendershott denied that participants in Camp Future Force had to write  
17 essays. He did not deny that there may have been an essay contest, but that was not a  
18 requirement for attendance of the camp. Hendershott was of the impression that most  
19 of the funding for Camp Future Force came from the Salt River Project. Camp Future  
20 Force is and was operated under the auspices of the Sheriff's Office, and not the posse.  
21 Camp Future Force is ongoing, and has been funded by the MCSO Youth Assistance  
22 Foundation, as well as Salt River Project. According to Hendershott, the Youth  
23 Assistance Foundation was set up under Sheriff Godbehre for the well being of  
24 children.  
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